

HOUSE RESOLUTION 145

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Bernie and Mary Helen Bass on the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on August 30, 1945, Bernie S. Bass, a native of New Middleton, Tennessee, and Mary Helen Whitfield, a native of Perry, Florida, were joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day this loving couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Bass are residents of Wilson County and have been highly respected citizens of the Lebanon community for over 25 years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, in 1941, Bernie Bass enlisted in the United States Army Air Force and courageously defended his country as a fighter pilot during World War II; he later served his country in Korea and Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, during their time in the Air Force, Bernie and Mary Helen Bass served assignments in such diverse locales as Colorado Springs, Colorado, Clovis, New Mexico, Chaumont, France, Quantico and Norfolk, Virginia, and RAF Lakenheath and RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge, England; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1970, Mr. Bass began his final assignment as Director of the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Fairborn, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, after their retirement in 1976, Bernie and Mary Helen Bass returned to Lebanon, where Mr. Bass served as Headmaster of the Junior School at Castle Heights Military Academy; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced three children, each of whom has excelled in his or her particular field of endeavor; the Bass's children are Dennis Bass, Cara Chipkevich, and Mark Bass; and

WHEREAS, the Basses are also the proud grandparents of four grandchildren, Ben Chipkevich, Mary Ann Chipkevich, Stephanie Bass, and Scott Bass; and

WHEREAS, devoted members of the First Presbyterian Church, Bernie and Mary Helen Bass are exceedingly active in their local community; Mr. Bass is a valued member of the American Legion and the Lebanon Rotary Club, while Mrs. Bass is an esteemed member of the Cumberland Woman's Club and La Coterie; and

WHEREAS, for 60 years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Bass's are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Bernie and Mary Helen Bass on the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.